2/19/71

Dear Howard,

I should have thought of this a few minutes ago, when we were talking. I suggest that you make a complete record of the man coming up to you and asking how to get in touch with you. You said nothing indicating any expression of approval from him, which would be consistent with his wanting to get in touch with you through interest in your point or work.

This should include as much as you can recall of the conversation, a description of him, what he was wearing and anything else you recall. If he seemed to be or not to be by himself, whether he left with others.

Was he an Ivy league type, in dress, at least? That's one kind of clue.

How did his age and appearance compare with that of the rest of the audience?

There is no reason for any concern, but if this was one of Specter's of The Indispensible's boyos, it might be good to have a record. You may also want to use it later in your writing.

Anyway, you've learned a bit of what it takes to become politically powerful, to become a candidate for mayor (anyway, it isn't his scholarship you have, its Tate's and yours).

I think you should transcribe that tape and use it in your book.

And remember, there are ongoing things that, if the prospects are slim, may still turn into something before the actual election. Like one of my suits. Should it, there would be possible interest in the great man who got bested by a young one who hasn't yet started to shave.

Great,

best,